

In the claims: The claims are as follows.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~(10)~~ for use with a UE device ~~(12)~~ equipped for wireless cellular communication and including a UE user interface ~~(14a)~~, the apparatus, characterized in that it comprisescomprising:

an a cellular interface ~~(10a)~~ with the UE device ~~(12)~~, providing at least part of a wireless or plug connection to the a ~~UE~~user equipment ~~(12)~~ configured for cellular communication, for communicating with the UE device ~~(12)~~; and

a short-range transceiver ~~(10b)~~, coupled to the cellular interface ~~(10a)~~ with the UE device ~~(12)~~, for wirelessly communicating with short-range transceivers of other communication peer devices, for receiving from another communication device information including an identifier indicating the other communication device;

an annunciator, for alerting a user to the occurrence of an event;

a buddy list data store, for holding a list of identifiers, with the list organized as records so as to be able to retrieve a record based on the identifier; and

a buddy detector application, responsive to the information including the identifier indicating the other communication device, for providing to the annunciator a control signal actuating the annunciator if and only if the identifier is included in the buddy list data store.

2. (Currently amended) A communication terminal comprising a user equipment device configured for cellular communication and an The apparatus ~~(10)~~ ef as in claim 1, further characterized in that wherein the UE user equipment device ~~(12)~~ also includes an AUX auxiliary user interface ~~(14b)~~ providing a user interface to

the apparatus-(10), and also in that the UE user equipment user interface-(14a) is operative in combination with the AUX auxiliary user interface application-(14b).

3. (Currently amended) The apparatus-(10) of claim 1, wherein the short-range transceiver-(10b) is operative according to the BlueTooth protocol or a comparable other short-range radio-wave based protocol.

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus-(10) of claim 1, wherein the cellular interface-(10a) with the UE device-(12) is coupled to the UE device using communication according to via the BlueTooth protocol or other radiofrequency-based coupling protocol, or using uses an infrared-based coupling technology.

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus-(10) of claim 1, wherein the short-range transceiver-(10b) of the apparatus-(10) is operative according to a predetermined protocol and has a range at least several multiples of the range usual for a short-range transceiver operative according to the predetermined protocol.

6. (Original) The apparatus-(10) of claim 1, wherein the UE device-(12) includes an annunciator-(17a-c), and wherein the apparatus-(10) is further characterized in that it further comprises:

— a buddy detector application-(10a-2), coupled to the short range transceiver-(10b), for receiving information including an identifier indicating a peer device or a user associated with a peer device, and in response providing to the annunciator-(17a-c) a control signal actuating the annunciator-(17a-c), depending on the identifier; and

— a buddy list-(16), for holding a list of buddies, with the list organized as records-(21) so as to be able to retrieve a

~~record for a peer device or a user associated with a peer device based on the identifier associated with the peer device or a user associated with a peer device;~~

~~wherein the buddy detector checks the buddy list (16) for a record having the identifier included in the received information and actuates the annunciator (17a-c) only upon finding such a record.~~

6. Canceled.

7. (Currently amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 6~~claim 1, wherein the identifier is an identifier of a short-range transceiver associated with the predetermined buddy.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 6~~claim 1, wherein the buddy identifier is a nickname of the predetermined buddy.

9. (Currently amended) A communication terminal comprising a user equipment device configured for cellular communication and the~~the~~ apparatus of ~~claim 6~~claim 1, wherein the buddy detector application-(10a) provides to the ~~UE~~ user equipment device-(12) information indicating the predetermined buddy for display to a user via the ~~a~~ user interface-(15a) of the ~~UE~~ user equipment device-(12).

10. (Currently amended) The apparatus-(10) of claim 1, wherein the ~~short range transceiver~~-(10b) is operative according to a predetermined protocol and has a greater range than is usual for a short range transceiver operative according to the predetermined protocol, and wherein the apparatus-(10) is further characterized in that it further comprisesfurther comprising:

a store and forward service application-(18), for receiving communications via the short-range transceiver-(10b), for

determining whether the communications have as an intended recipient a device that is peer to the apparatus-(10) but is other than the apparatus-(10), and for retransmitting any such communications via the short-range transceiver-(10b) and including in the retransmission an identifier indicating a user of the apparatus-(10), thereby providing to peer devices an increased-range short-range communication facility and allowing the user to take credit for providing the facility.

11. (Currently amended) A communication terminal comprising a user equipment device configured for cellular communication and ~~the~~ the apparatus-(10) of claim 1, further characterized in that it further comprises comprising:

a controller-(10a-2) adapted to receive from another device a request for permission to control a stimulus generator-(19a-b), to present the request to a user via ~~the UE-a~~ a user interface of the user equipment device-(14a), to signal the user response to the request, to receive command signals from the other device indicating commands to cause one or another of various available stimuli sensations, and to provide stimulus control signals corresponding to the received command signals; and

the stimulus generator-(19a-b), responsive to the stimulus control signals, for generating stimulus sensations corresponding to the stimulus control signals.

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus-(10) of claim 11, wherein the stimulus generator-(19a-b) emits light of a color indicated by the stimulus control signal.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus-(10) of claim 11, wherein the stimulus generator-(19a-b) emits sound indicated by the stimulus control signal.

14. (Currently amended) A communication terminal comprising a user equipment device configured for cellular communication and the The apparatus-(10) of claim 1, further characterized in that it further comprisescomprising:

a personal web page administrator-(10a), responsive to signals from the short-range transceiver-(10b) indicating the nearby presence of another short-range transceiver, for exchanging signals with a user of the-UE user equipment device (12) to determine whether to send a personal web page to the other short-range transceiver and for sending a web page to the other short-range transceiver; and

a web page data store (13a)-holding the personal web page.

15. (Currently amended) A communication terminal comprising a user equipment device configured for cellular communication and the the apparatus-(10) of claim 1, further characterized in that it further comprisescomprising:

a phone list data store (13b)-for holding a list of phone numbers organized as records (31)-indexed based on a nickname identifier wherein the phone numbers are kept secret from a user, and for providing a phone number from the phone list data store (13b)-in a guarded signal so as not to reveal the phone number to a user;

and wherein the-UE device (12) also hosts an AUX agent (14b) of the apparatus (10), the AUX agent (14b) apparatus is configured to respond -responsive to the guarded signal, for by causing the phone number to be dialed by the-UE user equipment device (12) without revealing the phone number to the-UE user equipment user interface-(14a), thereby keeping and so keep the phone number secret from a user of the-UE user equipment device (12).

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the ~~AUX agent (14b) apparatus is adapted configured~~ so that the phone number is called only for sending an ~~SMSa~~ message according to the short message service or ~~other~~ another kind of text and/or graphics message, and but not for enabling voice communication.

17. (Currently amended) A system, comprising a telecommunications network including a radio access network, and ~~further comprising a UE user equipment device (12), characterized in that wherein the UE user equipment device (12) is provided in combination with an apparatus (10) as in claim 1.~~

18. (Currently amended) A method for use by a UE device (12) equipped for wirelessly communicating according to a cellular communication protocol, the method for use in also wirelessly communicating with a peer device according to a short range wireless communication protocol, the method, characterized in that it comprisescomprising:

~~a step (101 106) in which the UE device (12) interfaces with a user to display messages communicated according to the short range wireless communication protocol or to accept messages for communication according to the short range wireless communication protocol, the interfacing with the user being via a AUX user interface (14b) providing a user interface to an external auxiliary device (10) coupled to the UE device (12) via a coupling arrangement (10a 12a); and~~

~~a step (102 105) in which the UE device (12) provides to the auxiliary device (10) the messages received from the user for communication according to the short range wireless communication protocol via a short range transceiver (10b) included as part of the auxiliary device (10), or in which the UE device (12) receives from the auxiliary device (10) the messages received via the short range transceiver (10b) for display to the user~~

receiving from another communication device, via a short-range transceiver in a communication device, information indicating an identifier of the other communication device; and  
determining whether the identifier of the other communication device indicates a buddy in a buddy list data store and if so, providing to an annunciator a control signal actuating the annunciator to indicate to a user receiving the information indicating the identifier of the other communication device.

19. (Original) ~~The method of claim 18, further characterized in that the AUX user interface (14b) is operative in combination with a UE user interface (14a) providing a user interface to the UE device (12).~~

19. Canceled.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the short-range transceiver ~~(10b)~~ is operative according to the BlueTooth protocol or a comparable short-range radio-wave based protocol.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the interface ~~(10a)~~ with the UE user equipment device ~~(12)~~ is coupled to the UE device using communication according to via the BlueTooth protocol or other radiofrequency-based coupling protocol, or using uses an infrared-based coupling technology.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the short-range transceiver ~~(10b)~~ of the apparatus ~~(10)~~ is operative according to a predetermined protocol and has a range at least several multiples of the range usual for a short-range transceiver operative according to the predetermined protocol.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the UE device (12) includes an annunciator (17a-c), and wherein the method is further characterized in that it further comprises:

\_\_\_\_\_ a step (43) in which a buddy detector application (10a), coupled to the short range transceiver (10b), receives via the short range transceiver (10b) information indicating a peer device based on an identifier included in the information;

\_\_\_\_\_ a step (44-45) in which the buddy detector application (10a) checks a buddy list (16), used for holding a list of buddies with the list organized as records (21) so as to be able to retrieve a record based on the identifier, and determines whether the identifier of the peer device indicates a buddy in the buddy list (16) and if so, provides to the annunciator (17a-c) a control signal actuating the annunciator (17a-c).

23. Canceled.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23claim 18, wherein the identifier is an identifier of a short-range transceiver included as part of the peer device.

25. (Currently amended) The method claim 23claim 18, wherein the identifier is a nickname of a user associated with the peerother communication device.

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23claim 18, further comprising a step (47) in which the buddy detector application (10a) provides providing to the UEa user equipment device (12) the identifier the buddy indicated by the identifier, for display to a user via the a user interface (15a) of the UEuser equipment device (12).

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the

~~short range transceiver (10b) is operative according to a predetermined protocol and has a greater range than is usual for a short range transceiver operative according to the predetermined protocol, and wherein the method is further characterized in that it further comprises~~ further comprising providing a store and forward service of:

~~a step (71 72) in which a store and forward service application (18) hosted by the auxiliary device (10) receives receiving communications via the short-range transceiver (10b) and determines determining whether the communications have as an intended recipient a device that is peer to the auxiliary device (10) but is other than the auxiliary device (10); and~~

~~a step (73) in which the store and forward service application (18) retransmits retransmitting any such communications via the short-range transceiver (10b) and including in the retransmission an identifier indicating a user of the auxiliary device (10), thereby providing to peer devices an increased-range short-range communication facility and allowing the user to take credit for providing the facility.~~

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, further characterized in that it further comprisescomprising:

~~a step (53) in which a controller (10a) hosted by the auxiliary device (10) receives receiving from a peer device, via the short-range transceiver, (10b) stimulus control signals indicating commands to cause one or another of various available stimuli sensations; and~~

~~a step (54) in which the controller (10a) provides providing the received stimulus control signals to a stimulus generator (19a-b) for generating stimuli sensations corresponding to the stimulus control signals.~~

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the stimulus generator emits light of a color indicated by the stimulus control signal.

30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the stimulus generator emits sound indicated by the stimulus control signal.

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, further characterized in that it further comprisescomprising:

~~a step (61) in which a personal web page administrator (10a) receives receiving signals via the short-range transceiver (10b) indicating the nearby presence of another short-range transceiver (10b); and~~

~~a step (62) in which the personal web page administrator (10a) uses using the short-range transceiver (10b) to send the a personal web page to the other short-range transceiver.~~

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, further characterized in that it further comprisescomprising:

~~a step (64) in which the auxiliary device (10) adds adding a phone number to a phone list data store (13b) holding a list of phones organized as records (31) indexed based on a nickname identifier, wherein the phone numbers are kept secret from a user;~~

~~a step (65) in which the auxiliary device (10) provides retrieving the phone number to an AUX component (14b) hosted by the UE device (12) a phone number to call via the cellular communication network, along with an associated nickname, and providing both in a guarded signal so as not to reveal the phone number to a user; and~~

~~a step (66) in which the AUX component (14b) places using the guarded signal to place the a call to the phone number using~~

a user equipment device configured for cellular communication, while displaying to a user of UE device (12) the nickname but not the number being called and keeping secret from the user the phone number being called.

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32, wherein ~~the AUX agent (14b) is adapted so that the phone number is called using only for sending an SMS message the short message service or another kind of text and/or graphicsthe other message service, and but not for a enabling voice- communication service.~~

34. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in equipment (11) comprising a UE user equipment device (11) coupled to an AUX auxiliary device (10), ~~with wherein~~ said computer program code characterized in that it includes includes instructions for performing the steps of the method of claim 18.

35. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

cellular interface means for providing at least part of a wireless or plug connection to a user equipment device configured for cellular communication; and

short-range transceiver means, coupled to the cellular interface, for wirelessly communicating with short-range transceivers of other communication devices, for receiving from another communication device information including an identifier indicating the other communication device;

annunciator means, for alerting a user to the occurrence of an event;

a buddy list data store means, for holding a list of identifiers, with the list organized as records so as to be able

to retrieve a record based on the identifier; and

    buddy detector means, responsive to the information including the identifier indicating the other communication device, for providing to the annunciator a control signal actuating the annunciator if and only if the identifier is included in the buddy list data store means.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the short-range transceiver means is operative according to the BlueTooth protocol or other short-range radio-wave based protocol.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the cellular interface means is via the BlueTooth protocol or other radiofrequency-based coupling protocol, or uses an infrared-based coupling technology.

38. (New) A module, comprising:

    a buddy list data store, for holding a list of identifiers, with the list organized as records so as to be able to retrieve a record based on the identifier; and

    a processor configured to respond to information including an identifier indicating another communication device, for providing to an annunciator a control signal actuating the annunciator if and only if the identifier is included in the buddy list data store.